

Message Text

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62

ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 H-03 PCH-04

SS-15 NSC-10 /123 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:JEBRIGGS

9/6/73 EX. 20448

APPROVED BY NEA/P:JEBRIGGS

S/PRS - MR. HARE (INFO)

IO/P - MR. BLACHLY

AF/P - MRS. RUSSELL

H - MISS FOLGER (INFO)

NEA/EGY - MR. STERNER

EUR/P - MR. SAVAGE

----- 026195

R 061906Z SEP 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT CAIRO

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NY

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USMISSION NATO

USINT BAGHDAD BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY SANAA BY POUCH

UNCLAS STATE 177146

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING IS PARTIAL
EXCERPT FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING
SEPTEMBER 6, 1973:

QUOTE: Q. I HATE TO LET THIS OPPORTUNITY GO BY FOR YOU TO
GIVE US ALL YOUR KNOWLEDGE ON THE ARAB OIL SITUATION AND
THE UNITED STATES RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL AND THAT SORT OF
THING, THAT THE PRESIDENT SPOKE ON. PERHAPS YOU COULD
ELABORATE TODAY.

A. I HAVE NOTHING TO ADD OR SUBTRACT FROM WHAT THE
PRESIDENT SAID YESTERDAY.

Q. CAN WE CHANGE THE SUBJECT AGAIN?

Q. WELL, THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT THE HIGHEST PRIORITY WAS
BEING GIVEN THIS WHOLE QUESTION. IS THERE ANY WAY YOU CAN
DISCUSS WHETHER ANYTHING IS GOING ON DIPLOMATICALLY?

A. NO.

Q. WELL, WHAT DID HE MEAN BY THE HIGHEST PRIORITY? DO YOU
HAVE ANY INSIGHT THAT YOU COULD GIVE US?

A. PRECISELY WHAT HE SAID -- HIGHEST PRIORITY.

Q. WHAT IS THE CONNALLY TRIP SUPPOSED TO BE ABOUT?
THE PRESIDENT REALLY DIDN'T SPELL IT OUT IN HIS STATEMENT
YESTERDAY. I WONDERED IF YOU HAD ANY BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE.

A. NO.

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Q. WHEN WAS THIS TRIP OR PROJECTED TRIP FOR CONNALLY
ARRANGED? DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA?

A. NO. I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO OFFER YOU ON GOVERNOR
CONNALLY'S TRIP. I DOUBT IF I WILL HAVE, QUITE FRANKLY.
HE IS A PRIVATE CITIZEN. AND I WOULD IMAGINE THAT IN THE
NORMAL COURSE OF EVENTS INFORMATION ON HIS TRAVELS WOULD
COME FROM HIS OFFICE BASICALLY. AND IF HE HAS SOME OTHER
AFFAIRS TO CONDUCT IN CONNECTION WITH THE WHITE HOUSE,

WELL THEN I WOULD PRESUME THAT THE WHITE HOUSE WOULD BE TALKING ABOUT IT.

Q. DO YOU KNOW IF MR. SISCO WAS CONSULTED BY THE PRESIDENT OR BY DR. KISSINGER IN THE LAST FEW DAYS IN PREPARATION OF THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT ON OIL AND HIS CONNECTION OF THE OIL SITUATION WITH THE NEED FOR ARAB-ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS -- SOMETHING WHICH I THOUGHT MR. SISCO SAID WERE DISTINCT EVENTS.

Q. LAST YEAR.

A. WELL, MR. SISCO HAS MADE A NUMBER OF STATEMENTS. I DON'T KNOW IF HE WAS SPECIFICALLY CONSULTED IN THE LAST SEVERAL DAYS. END QUOTE. RUSH

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED TO BAGHDAD AND SANAA.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, POLICIES, PRESS CONFERENCES, PRESIDENTIAL MISSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE177146
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JEBRIGGS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730951/aaaabldb.tel
Line Count: 131
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10-Sep-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <07 FEB 2002 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING IS PARTIAL
TAGS: PFOR, (CONNALLY, JOHN)
To: AMMAN MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005